

**MEMORANDUM**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**  
**LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7979**



**DOSE OF HUMOR**  
<http://www.ahajokes.com/>

**Bumper Stickers 13**

Seen it all, done it all, can't  
remember most of it.

**DATE:** *November 2008*  
**TO:** Families of Children with Special Needs  
**FROM:** Mary J. Marin, Executive Director, Family Center (FC)  
Nancy Deising, Parent Communications Consultant Specialist,  
Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Division

**SUBJECT:**  **Heart-to-Heart Updates**



**A Word from Mary...**

The Family Center (FC) is a section of the Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Division of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH). CSHCS is part of MDCH's Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health.

CSHCS primarily provides medical specialty care to children with a qualifying diagnosis. The FC serves families of all children with special needs. The Family Support Network of Michigan (FSN) is the FC's parent-to-parent support arm.

**Mary J. Marin**  
Executive Director

**Lisa Cook-Gordon**  
Transition Consultant

**Nancy Deising**  
Parent Communications Consultant

**Randy Krause**  
FSN Coordinator

**Jean Rennie**  
Administrative Assistant

**Dianna Rigato**  
Information & Resource Specialist

**Leah Waters**  
Secretary

**CSHCS Family Phone Line**  
1-800-359-3722  
8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday- Friday

*Events and resources are  
compiled by the Family Center from  
a variety of sources. A listing does  
not stand for endorsement.*

*Are you interested in sharing your view on CSHCS issues and needs faced by Michigan families? We are looking for consumers to serve on the CSHCS Advisory Committee (CAC). Selected members will be appointed to a three-year term. Consumer members must be parents or guardians of a child in, or formerly in the CSHCS program or adults currently enrolled in CSHCS.*

The current CAC structure calls for quarterly meetings in Lansing for two to four hours. Consumer members are eligible to receive a stipend for attending the meetings as well as reimbursement for mileage, meals and child care. To start the application process, phone our CSHCS Family Phone Line at 1-800-359-3722. By phone, we will help you complete an "Interest to Participate – New Member" form.

*Mary J. Marin♥*

**Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) & Family Center (FC) for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Updates**

**Welcome Becky!** Becky Shockley has accepted the position of Department Analyst E in Region 1 and started on October 6. She will report to Rebecca Start, Manager of Region 1. Becky's past experience was as Department Technician in Vital Records. She has extensive experience in customer services.♥

**Welcome Melissa!** Melissa Flores has accepted the General Office Assistant position in Region 1 and started on October 20. She will also report to Rebecca Start, Manager of Region 1. Melissa's past experience was working with the Office of Retirement Services. In this position she was responsible for processing tax deferred payment agreements for Michigan Public School Employees. She is also a current student at Lansing Community College. ♥

The **Michigan Family to Family Health Information and Education Center (F2FHIEC) Transition Workgroup** is developing a Transition DVD to assist young adults as they transition from children to adult services and is seeking transition idols to share their success stories related to:

- |                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Adult Living       | 5. Rights and Responsibilities |
| 2. Housing            | 6. Health                      |
| 3. Career Development | 7. Community Participation     |
| 4. Education          |                                |

If you are a young adult, family member or provider with a transition success story submit it on CD Rom or DVD directly to: Lisa Cook-Gordon, F2FHIEC, 3056 W Grand Blvd, Suite 3-350 Detroit, MI 48202.♥

## Medical Home Updates

**Give Michigan's Kids a Great Start provided by the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC)** has a Pediatric and Family Health Medical Home Committee that has existed since 2007. The committee has spent the last year coming up with strategic priorities and benchmarks for 2007-2010. The final draft was released in October. The priority outcomes are that every child through age five has a medical home which results "Infants, toddlers, young children and their parents are physically, socially, developmentally and emotionally healthy."

There are 20 strategies to help achieve the result. The committee will be picking 5 strategies as priorities and looking into the funding costs of each. The committee will be to bring these priorities to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Michigan Early Childhood Challenge: *Early Childhood Advocates & Policy Leaders Working Together to Create An Agenda for Reform for Young Children*. The Challenge will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at the Lansing Center, Lansing, MI. For questions, please contact 517-371-9000 ext. 217. ♥

## Events

**November 3, 2008 Parenting Awareness Michigan (PAM) Conference in Lansing:** Each year PAM Conferences are held to bring together professionals and volunteers who work with families to learn about issues facing today's parents and caregivers. The Registration Booklet and other materials can be found at the Michigan Prevention Network site: <http://www.preventionnetwork.org/index.html>. ♥

**November 4, 2008 PARENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (Sponsored by Impact, Ingham County's System of Care)** Salvation Army, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing, MI 6-8 p.m. An educational workshop series for family members, frontline service providers, and anyone interested in learning more about children with emotional, behavioral, and mental health challenges and the systems that serve them. ♥

**November 6-7, 2008 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Sibling Leadership Network in Columbus Ohio:** Sibling Leadership Network meetings are a remarkable opportunity to connect with adults sib (and others committed to issues important to sibs) from around the US and beyond. For more information visit: <http://www.siblingsupport.org/> ♥

**November 11-12, 2008 Autism Trainings:** Social Skills & Differentiating Instruction in Autism Spectrum Disorders. Trainings will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Dearborn, 5801 Southfield Freeway, Detroit, MI 48228. For more information visit: <http://www.spectrumtrainingsystemsinc.com/detroit.html> ♥

**November 18, 2008 Calling all Dads!** Join other dads for information, laughter and support at the monthly Dads Group meetings. All meetings are held at Judson Center, 4410 W. 13 Mile, Royal Oak, MI. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. The December meeting will be held on December 16. RSVPs are appreciated by calling 248-837-2047. Visit [www.judsoncenter.org](http://www.judsoncenter.org) for more information. ♥

Open registration for the **MDCH Fall 2008 Regional Immunization Conferences** is still open. Details about the conferences, including payment information are posted on the conference website at <http://register2008.mihealth.org/> ♥

## Resources

- **Assistive Technology (AT) Xchange:**  
A new Michigan-based website where people can buy, sell or give away assistive technology. Visit <http://www.atxchange.org/v3/home.php> for more information.
- **CSHCS Course** [www.training.mihealth.org/coursedetail.htm#CSHCS](http://www.training.mihealth.org/coursedetail.htm#CSHCS)
- **Down Syndrome Guild** (formerly Parents of Children with Down Syndrome) [www.dsgsemi.org](http://www.dsgsemi.org) 248-827-9135
- **Family Center** 1-800-359-3722 and [www.bridges4kids.org/f2f](http://www.bridges4kids.org/f2f)
- **Health Children Project Monthly e-News** <http://www.LDAofmichigan.org/healthychild.htm>
- **Heart-to-Heart Updates** [www.michigan.gov/cshcs](http://www.michigan.gov/cshcs) E-mail Dianna Rigato at [RigatoD@Michigan.gov](mailto:RigatoD@Michigan.gov) for electronic copies of the Updates.
- **Judson Center Autism Connections** <http://www.judsoncenter.org/> and click on Autism Connections link
- **Michigan Loan Funds:** The loan fund will help you purchase assistive technology devices and services. Visit <http://www.michiganloanfunds.org/> more information. ♥

### Calling All Teen Women with Diabetes & Their Parents!

Take a diabetes health education survey.



It's easy - and you could win an iPod!

To find out more:

Contact us at [BDRFollowup@michigan.gov](mailto:BDRFollowup@michigan.gov)

Call us toll free: 866-852-1247

